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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/669,598	09/26/2000	Yoshito Fujino	JA9-99-165	4995

7590

02/17/2005

Kevin M Mason
Ryan Mason & Lewis LLP
90 Forest Avenue
Locust Valley, NY 11560

EXAMINER

PAULA, CESAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/669,598	Applicant(s) FUJINO ET AL.	
	Examiner CESAR B. PAULA	Art Unit 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/26/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-18 and 20-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 19 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application, and IDS filed on 9/17, and 10/26/2004 respectively.

This action is made Final.

2. In the amendment, claims 20-25 have been added. Claims 1-25 are pending in the case. Claims 1-3, 9-14, and 20 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) filed 9/26/2000, has been refilled with appropriate explanations of the non-patent publications that were not listed in the English language. Therefore, these publications have been considered.

Priority

4. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), and based on application # 11-294,993 filed in Japan on 10/18/1999, which papers have been placed of record in the file. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed certified copies of the Japanese application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Drawings

5. The drawings filed on 9/26/2000 have been approved by the examiner.

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Claim Objections

6. Appropriate corrections have been made to claims 1, 16-18. Therefore, its objection has been withdrawn.
7. Claim 19 remains objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim *should refer to other claims in the alternative only, and/or, cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim*. See MPEP § 608.01(n).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. Appropriate corrections have been made to claims 1. Therefore, the rejections of claims 1, and 16-18 have been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Broomhall et al, hereinafter Broomhall (Pat. # 6,292,904, B1, 9/18/2001, filed on 12/16/1998).

Regarding independent claim 20, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the

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external user(s) has not expired (col.4, lines 59-col.5, line 32, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). The sponsor requests the external user's id, and password—*form for delegated application--* by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form, the external user's data as well —*requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data--*, the database, and database access level—*delegation term condition data that identifies a term for said delegated application*. In this situation, the data input by the sponsor, includes the length of time (expiration data), access level, sponsors, and external user's personal information-- *said form condition data and delegation term condition data are related to application requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data*.

Moreover, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form-- *enabling said first electronic form to be acquired*. The external user accesses the database by entering requested password, and id (col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 10, 48-67, col.7, lines 45-67, col.8, lines 10-67, fig.3, 5, and 11).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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12. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-14, and 16-18 remain and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall, in view of "Using Paradox 5 For Windows" Special Edition, hereinafter Paradox, Que, 1994, pp. 133-139, and 526-529.

Regarding independent claim 1, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired (col.4, lines 59-col.5, line 32, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). The sponsor requests the external user's id, and password—*form of requesting a delegated application--* by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form, the external user's data as well —*requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data--*, the database, and database access level—*term of requesting said delegated application beforehand--*.

Moreover, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form. The external user accesses the database by entering requested password, and id (col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 10, 48-67, col.7, lines 45-67, col.8, lines 10-67, fig.3, 5, and 11).

Additionally, Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *inspecting whether or not the current data adapts to said delegation term condition data*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the user enter an expiration date associated with the sponsored external user, because Broomhall teaches the changing and resetting of an expired password (col.8, lines 34-67), which would provide the benefit of

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allowing external users secure access to a database or application have enabled the user to input the user id and password into a form, thus providing the benefit of securely accessing the database/ application only by those authorized to do so for a specified period of time.

Moreover, Broomhall discloses presenting a prompt to an external user for inputting the id, and password. If the user's id and password match those found in a in an access control list, then the user is granted access to the database or application (col.5, lines 49-67, and col.8, lines 47-67, fig. 5, 7). In other words if the id and password assigned by the sponsor to the external user match—*adapts to coincide with said form condition data of requesting a form*, where an ID, and password are needed to access the system -- those found in the control list, then based on this inspection or checking, the user is granted access to the system.

Furthermore, Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant; enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if results of said inspections are acceptable*. However, Paradox teaches allowing the definition of auxiliary passwords, which allow secondary users to have different levels of control for entering data, such as inserting and deleting information, data entry, read only, etc. in tables—*forms* (pages 137-138, page 527, lines 11-page 528, line 16). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Broomhall, and Paradox to acquire said form, because this would provide the benefit of securely accessing the database application only by those authorized personnel, thereby, ensuring the integrity of the tables or forms stored in the system.

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Claims 2-3 are directed towards a method equivalent to the steps found in claims 1, and therefore are similarly rejected.

Regarding claim 5, which depends any of claims 1-3, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor using an administrative engine for giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired (col.3, lines 31-67, col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 32, 42-67, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *displaying a list of available forms*. However, Paradox teaches opening a table—*form*-- from a list on a dialog box (page 135, line 1-10, fig.6.1). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Broomhall, and Paradox to acquire said form from a list, because this would provide the benefit of easily, and efficiently accessing the forms from a single interface.

Regarding claim 6, which depends on claim 5, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor using an administrative engine for giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired (col.3, lines 31-67, col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 32, 42-67, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have displayed the list according to an organization, because this would provide the benefit of securely accessing the

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corporate organization servers only by those authorized personnel, thereby, ensuring the integrity of sensitive information, such as the tables or forms stored in the system.

Regarding claim 7, which depends on claim 5, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor using an administrative engine for giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications using a password—*flag* indicating authorization for external users to access to the system as delegated by the sponsor. If the user's password is found in an access control list, then the user is granted access (col.3, lines 31-67, col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 32, 42-67, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). In other words, the password indicates that the user system access is enabled to the external user as delegated by the sponsor.

Regarding independent claim 9, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor using an administrative engine—a *directory manager that certifies a user--* for giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired (col.3, lines 31-67, col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 32, 42-67, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). The sponsor requests the external user's id, and password by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form, the external user's data as well —*requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data--*, the database, and database access level—*term of requesting said delegated application beforehand--*. Access control to the database, and application is granted based on whether an input id, and password are present in an access control list—*proxy applicant definition table*.

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Moreover, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form. The external user accesses the database by entering requested password, and id (col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 10, 48-67, col.7, lines 45-67, col.8, lines 10-67, fig.3, 5, and 11).

Additionally, Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *inspecting whether or not the current date coincides to said delegation term condition data*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the user enter an expiration date associated with the sponsored external user, because Broomhall teaches the changing and resetting of an expired password (col.8, lines 34-67), which would provide the benefit of allowing external users secure access to a database or application have enabled the user to input the user id and password into a form, thus providing the benefit of securely accessing the database/ application only by those authorized to do so for a specified period of time.

Moreover, Broomhall discloses presenting a prompt to an external user for inputting the id, and password. If the user's id and password match those found in a in an access control list, then the user is granted access to the database or application (col.5, lines 49-67, and col.8, lines 47-67, fig. 5, 7). In other words if the id and password assigned by the sponsor to the external user match—*coincides with said form condition data*, where an ID, and password are needed to access the system -- those found in the control list, then based on this inspection or checking, the user is granted access to the system.

Furthermore, Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *a blank form collector accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant; enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if*

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results of said inspections are acceptable. However, Paradox teaches a database application allowing the definition of auxiliary passwords-- *a blank form collector accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant* using the auxiliary passwords-- which allow secondary users to have different levels of control for entering data, such as inserting and deleting information, data entry, read only, etc. in tables—*forms*(pages 137-138, page 527, lines 11-page 528, line 16). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Broomhall, and Paradox to acquire said form, because this would provide the benefit of securely accessing the database application only by those authorized personnel, thereby, ensuring the integrity of the tables or forms stored in the system.

Claims 10-11 are directed towards a method equivalent to the steps found in claim 9, and therefore are similarly rejected.

Claim 12 is directed towards a program product stored on a storage medium for storing the steps found in claim 1, except for limitation of a current time coinciding with delegation term, which is not explicitly taught by Broomhall. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the user enter an expiration time associated with the sponsored external user, because Broomhall teaches the changing and resetting of an expired password (col.8, lines 34-67), which would provide the benefit of allowing external users secure access to a database or application have enabled the user to input the user id and password into a form, thus providing the benefit of securely accessing the

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database/ application only by those authorized to do so for a specified period of time. Therefore, is similarly rejected.

Claims 13-14 are directed towards a program product stored on a storage medium for storing the steps found in claim 12, and therefore are similarly rejected.

Claims 16-18 are directed towards a program product stored on a storage medium for storing the steps found in claims 5-7, therefore are similarly rejected.

Claims 22-24 are directed towards a method equivalent to the steps found in claims 5-7, and therefore are similarly rejected.

13. Claims 4, 15, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall, in view of Paradox, and further in view of Atlas et al, hereinafter Atlas (Pat. # 5,848,413, 12/8/98, filed on 1/13/95).

Regarding claim 4, which depends on any of claims 1-3, Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor using an administrative engine for giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired (col.3, lines 31-67, col.4, lines 59-col.5, lines 32, 42-67, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). The sponsor requests the external user's id, and password by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form. Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose: *filling personal data of said application requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.*

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However, Atlas teaches automatically providing completions of form fields (col.2, lines 8-34, col.4, lines 1-37, and fig. 3-6). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Broomhall, Paradox, and Atlas, Atlas teaches making text entry easier into a computer interface using autocomplete functions for automatically completing text entered into the interface (col. 1, lines 38-60, and col. 2, lines 1-37).

Claim 15 is directed towards a program product stored on a storage medium for storing the steps found in claim 4, therefore is similarly rejected.

Claim 21 is directed towards a method equivalent to the steps found in claim 4, and therefore is similarly rejected.

Allowable Subject Matter

14. Claims 8, 19, and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

15. Applicant's arguments filed 9/17/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding claims 1-2, 9-10, and 12-13, Applicants indicate that Broomhall does not disclose or suggest registering or managing form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegating application (page 12, lines 28-30). The Examiner disagrees because

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Broomhall discloses an internal sponsor, which gives external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password assigned to the external user(s) has not expired (col.4, lines 59-col.5, line 32, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). The sponsor requests the external user's id, and password—*form or way of requesting a delegated application--* by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc.

Regarding claims 3, 11, and 14, Applicants indicate that Broomhall does not disclose or suggest proxy applicant data, which specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for the delegated application (page 12, lines 28-page 13, line 2). The Examiner disagrees because Broomhall teaches an internal sponsor giving external users access to an internal database and Lotus applications for as long as a password for the external user(s) has not expired (col.4, lines 59-col.5, line 32, col.7, lines 45-col.8, line 67, fig.3, 5, and 11). In other words, the sponsor requests the external user's id, and password by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form, the external user's data as well —*requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data--*, the database, and database access level—*term of requesting said delegated application beforehand--*. The sponsor permits the external user(s) access to the data the sponsor has access.

Regarding claims 1-3, 9-14, Applicants submit that neither Paradox, nor Atlas teach or suggest registering or managing form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application, as required by, or suggest proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application (page 13, lines 8-21). As indicated above, Broomhall teaches these limitations.

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Applicants are directed towards the rejections of newly added claims 20-24 above, in light of the prior art.

Conclusion

16. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

I. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (571) 272-4128. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong, can be reached on (571) 272-4124. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day.

Any response to this Action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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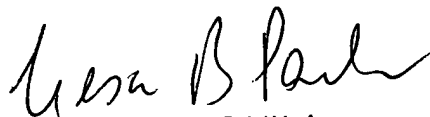
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Or faxed to:

- (703) 703-872-9306, (for all Formal communications intended for entry)


CESAR B PAULA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AU 2178

2/16/05